promote exports of iron ore from Para-dip Port, in the long run, following steps have been taken:—

(i) Provision of incentives by way of LdJ.tional discount in iron ore prices to induce major buyers to increase off take from Paradip Port;

(ii) Diversification of exports through Paradip Port to countres such as Bulgaria and China.

(iii) As against present capacity to accomodate vessels of 55,000 DWT, it is proposed to deepen the port for handling vessels of upto 1,70,000 DWT class and the proposal has already been approved in principle;

(iv) Proposed construction of Banaspani-Daitari railway line so as to reduce the haulage cost by nearly 50 per cent and thereby reducing losses on export of iron ore through Paradip;

(v) Extension of benefits of 100 per cent Export Oriented Units Scheme to mining industry.

Increase in non-plan expenditure

@837. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the non-plan expenditure is increasing year after year, both at "the union and the States' level;

(b) whether several experts and economists have offered suggestions for reduction in non-plan expenditure; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the .action taken thereon?-

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI *B. K.* GADHVI): (a) In terms of percentage there has not been any significant increase in the Non-Plan expenditure of both Union and the States put together *vis-a-vis* the total expenditure of Union and the States.

(b) and (c) The suggestions received from experts and economists for reductio:: in Non-Plan expenditure are taken noie of while framing the Budgets.

Busting of a racket engaged in issing forged arms licence

838. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Crime Branch has recently busted a racket engaged in issuing forged arms licences that was operating in several parts of the country as reported in the Indian Express dated 8th April, 1988; -

(b) if so, the details of the arrests made in this connection; and

(c) the detils of the illegal arms, etc. recovered and further steps proposed to be taken to nab the culprits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 3 persons have been arrested in this connection.

(c) 18 Fake licences, and fake rubber stamps of Distt. Magistrate. Ferozepur and Distt. Magistrate, Gurdaspur etc. have been recovered.

Expansion of ties in various fields with E.E.C.

839. SHRI SURENDRA SINGH THAKUR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any efforts to expand ties in various fields with the European Economic Community (SBC);

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(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether this expansion of ties will help India in improving its position in commercial and industrial sectors; and

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) to (d) Unde, the broad framework of an agreement for eco. nomic and commercial cooperation between India and the EEC efforts are constantly made to diversify and expand bilateral ties. The framework of cooperation now includes not only commercial relations but industrial cooperation and for science and technology. Activities and programmes mutually taken up in the new areas of cooperation are expected to help develop some of the, essential infrastructural support by way of techr nology data bank, quality control mechanism and research and development projects in Air Pollution Monitoring and Immunology and Immunoprophylaxis of leprosy, etc.

टिहरी बांध परियोजना के संबंध में प्रदूषण के पहलू पर एस० के० राय समिति का प्रतिवेदन

840. श्री सुब्रह्मण्यम स्वामी :

श्री रशीद मसूद :

क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि टिहरी बांध परियोजना के संबंध में प्रदूषण के प्रश्न का अध्ययन करने के लिये श्री एस. के. राय की अध्यक्षता में एक कार्यकारी दल का गठन किया गया था;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने इस कार्यकारी दल की सिफारिशों को ध्यान में रखे बिना ही इस परियोजना की स्वीकृति दे दी है;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि सोवियत संघ के विशेषज्ञों से भी प्रदूषण के इस प्रश्न का अध्ययन करवाया गया था; यदि हां, तो उस अध्ययन का ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(घ) इस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री जैड० आर० अन्सारी) : (क) और (ख) श्री सुनील के. राय की अध्यक्षता में 1980 में गठित कार्यकारी दल ने टिहरी बांध परियोजना के पर्यावरणीय प्रभाव की जांच की।

परियोजना को 1972 में तकनीकी आर्थिक मंजूरी पहले ही दे दी गई थी इसलिए फिर से मंजूरी की कोई जरूरत नहीं थी।

(ग) जी, नहीं।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

एम० एम० टी० सी० द्वारा बहुराष्ट्रिक कम्पनियों के साथ पक्षपात

841. श्री सुब्रह्मण्यम स्वामी :

श्री रशीद मसूद :

क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान 18 मार्च, 1988 के "इंडियन एक्सप्रैस" में "एम.एम.टी.सी. फेवर टू मल्टी नेशनल्स" शीर्षक के अन्तर्गत प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या यह सच है कि एम.एम.टी.सी.एन.ए.एल.सी. ओ. को अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय बाजार में किए गए कुछ सौदों में निरर्थक ही हानि हुई है;

(ग) क्या सरकार ने इस संबंध